



Clarification – Changes to WSRA Leagues 2010

This document is provided to attempt to clarify the situation regarding changes to the way in which league results will be calculated for 2010. This includes my personal interpretation on some of the more ambiguous areas, but in an attempt to be transparent in methodology, I've tried to provide as much detail as possible in this document.

So what was agreed at the AGM and subsequent Exec-meeting?

To quote from the meeting notes:

“Points System

AC proposed that **the points system should be revamped such that the number of points available in each race reflects the number of competing boats; i.e. if there are 15 boats, winning crew takes 15 points, but if there are 8 crews only 8 points are awarded to the winning crew.** JS suggested an amendment that the minimum points available should be 5 points, even if there are fewer entries. Voting: for AC proposal – carried by majority 17 for, 6 against; for JS proposal – 5 for, majority against.

There was also a discussion regarding dropping of the lowest scores and whether this could be non-attended events. Proposal to be able to drop non-attended events (AC), but not in joint league – 22 for, 1 abstention. Carried in favour.”

“Race Dates

Race dates (with risk assessment) had been requested by JS via email. Many clubs from the South have asked for events, fewer from the North. It was agreed that all clubs who requested an event would be able to hold them. To avoid clubs having to attend an increasing number of events, it was proposed that only the **best 7 from each region (North or South) would count for the league trophies** (AC). All joint league events would count for the joint league. 11 for, 4 against, 4 abstained. Carried for the proposal. ”

The finalised program of events took a little longer to agree, but this is what we have ended up with:

Events

Northern League: Mochras, Porthmadog, Caernarfon, Aberdyfi, Aberaeron, Bull Bay, Borth, Aberystwyth [**8 Events**]

Southern League: Newport, PYC, Solfach, Fishguard, Aberdyfi, Llangwm, Cardigan, Aberaeron, Llangrannog, Aberystwyth [**10 Events**]

Joint League: Aberdyfi, Aberaeron, Aberystwyth [**3 Events**]

This is still subject to possible change. For a definitive racing schedule at any given point in time, visit www.welshsearowing.org.uk and follow the link for the calendar.

What do the changes mean in terms of arithmetic?

The key point is that we are taking the best 7 results North and South rather than the old system of dropping. Bear in mind that there's a fairly good chance that at least one race will be cancelled due to the weather. Because of the changes to the number of points for a win, your best results aren't necessarily your highest placing, for example if you came 3rd in a well attended race against 20 competitors in the same category, then you'd have 18 points, whereas a win in a field of 4 would result in 4 points.

The other key point is that we are deriving the number of points for each place from the entrants **in a particular category**. From a league perspective, we have the following categories:

Longboat:

U16 Girls, U16 Boys, U18 Girls, U18 Boys, Seniors, Senior Vets, Senior SupaVets, Ladies, Ladies Vets, Mixed, Mixed Vets

Yole:

Single: Seniors, Ladies

Double: Seniors, Ladies, Mixed

We do not have a Ladies SupaVets category for 2010, but this may be re-introduced in the future subject to sufficient interest. We do not and have never had any mixed junior categories. Although great to see, these should be entered as boys crews. We also don't have a novices category. If you want to allow these into for example the junior race, then great, but don't tell me about them in your league returns. Failing that, they should enter the relevant seniors/ladies/mixed race in the appropriate age class.

So a few more examples, lets say that we have a ladies veterans category with 7 entries. The points given would be:

1st place – 7, 2nd – 6, 3rd – 5, 4th – 3, 5th – 2, 6th – 1, 7th – 1.

So on a bigger scale, we have a mixed race with 23 entrants, all seniors:

1st place – 23, 2nd – 22, 3rd – 21, 4th – 20... ..22nd – 1, 23rd – 1.

So the consequence of this is that you really don't want your crews in a class of their own. There is however a bit of a trade-off, because you would get 1 point for turning up and racing for a time, and over a season that may add up to make the difference in a given category...

Also note that from a league perspective, what I'm interested in is the declared 'class for club points' on each entry. It's fine for a crew to win the Senior's SupaVets trophy at an event, but to declare themselves seniors for club points.

Another point of note is that we don't have a men's category, it's seniors so if you wanted to you could have ladies in the crew...

What about the club championship?

The worked examples above focus on the scenario for a particular named crew. But the minute above is clear that “**the best 7 from each region (North or South) would count for the league trophies**”. Since the club championships are league trophies, then this is also true for these awards. The calculation will be the best 7 results for each named crew of each club added up. These will be considered on a per crew basis, so a club might be drawing on the results from a different 7 races from one named crew to another.

...and the Joint League?

The joint league will also be calculated on the new arithmetic. As in the past, you can't drop joint events from the joint league though, so all trophies will be calculated on performance across the 3 events (subject to them all running). You can however have your best 7 results for North/South drawn with the exclusion of some/all joint events.

A few other things

As always, it's important that you name your crews consistently throughout the year. One of my big headaches is marrying up crew names at the end of the year. Whilst it may give you amusement to enter your crew as the 'Abersomewhere Harlots' one week and 'Dai's bitches' the next, it causes me untold hassle, so please pick a name and stick to it when doing entries. Also, clubs making returns, please send me the crew names as per the entry forms, not just the boat names, and make sure you've sorted the results according to the declared 'class for club points'.

At the back of this document, I've included a definitive race entry form. Feel free to customise with your race name, logo etc, but please ensure that this is the minimum of info captured. A trick that may help is to photocopy batches of these to different coloured paper for the various races. To make things easier for clubs on the day, you could also do a lot worse than pre-fill the forms. This may also help with naming consistency. Also as a supplementary document, I've attached an official returns form. Please again ensure that this is the minimum of information that is sent back to me for collation. Also, all longboats should clearly display a boat number.

The level of entry fee was capped at £4.50 per adult and £2.50 per junior for the 2009 season. There has been no increase for 2010. Clubs are of course free to charge less.

We've asked that all clubs try and produce a write-up following their events this year, for the web and also to send to their local newspaper(s). Please try and do this, as publicity is key to the growth of our community.

Any questions?

I've tried to be pretty comprehensive with this document, but will undoubtedly have left some grey areas. If you have questions, please let me know. I'm going to pull this document into an FAQ/guidance on the web shortly and will update it with new questions as they are received.

Andy Cox, Vice-Chair, Webmaster and League Co-ordinator. 12th May 2010.
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CREW REGISTRATION 2010

CLUB	
CREW NAME Club a, b, c etc	
BOAT NAME	
BOAT COLOUR	
BOAT NUMBER	
CLASS/ES ENTERED circle	S SV SupaV L LV Mxd MxdV Junior: Bu16 Gu16 Bu18 Gu18
Class for Club Points	
CREW:	
Cox	
Stroke	
3	
2	
Bow	

FEE PAID...£.....

I declare that all crew are members of an affiliated club
and registered with WSRA

Signed..... Position.....